

-11-

REMARKS

This communication is in response to two telephone conversations with the examiner on March 21, 2006. The examiner had called to discuss a potential examiner's amendment for a related co-pending case, U.S. application no. 09/823,619. After discussion on this co-pending case, the applicant's representative also asked about the present case.

During these conversations, the examiner indicated that amending the claims consistent with features of U.S. application no. 09/823,619 so that the language model is an N-gram language model and including an additional feature of updating the language model using words entered into the cache would be helpful and could possibly place the application in condition for allowance. However, the examiner stated that he would still like to review additional art.

The applicant's representative informed the examiner that she would first contact the inventor and call the examiner back after receiving inventor input. The inventor was contacted, which led to a second telephone conversation with the examiner on March 21, 2006.

In response to these telephone conversations, claims 1, 14, and 24 have been amended to include additional language that generally clarifies that the language model is an N-gram language model, which is generally defined in the claims as a language model comprising probability values corresponding to sequences of word N-grams of a natural language. Claims 1, 14, and 24 have further been amended to clarify that the language model is updated using words entered into the cache.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application has been placed in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

-12-

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By: Linda P. Ji  
Linda P. Ji, Reg. No. 49,027  
Suite 1400 - International Centre  
900 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319  
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

LPJ:rg